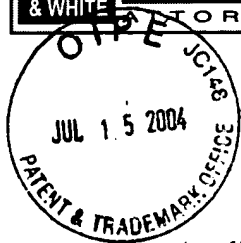




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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:  
Mark O. Scates  
David A. Trueba  
Raymond J. Zinobile

Group Art Unit: 1621

Examiner: Unknown

Atty. Docket No.: 10437.0073.NPUS01

Serial No.: 10/708,420

Confirmation No.: 2419

Filed: March 2, 2004

For: REMOVAL OF PERMANGANATE  
REDUCING COMPOUNDS FROM  
METHANOL CARBONYLATION  
PROCESS STREAM

**FIRST PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

EXPRESS MAIL MAILING LABEL

NUMBER: EV317620151US DATE OF DEPOSIT 07/15/2004

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "EXPRESS MAIL POST OFFICE TO ADDRESSEE" service under 37 C.F.R. 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to: MAIL STOP MISSING PARTS, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

*Cynthia A. Levin*  
Signature

MAIL STOP MISSING PARTS  
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Before undertaking the examination of the above noted application, Applicant requests the following amendments: